

ABSTRACT**A METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR STORAGE OF SECURITY KEYS AND  
CERTIFICATES**

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A method and apparatus for storage of security keys and certificates is provided in which the keys and certificates are fragmented into non-uniform lengths and stored in a data file (110). The fragments (152, 154) of the keys and certificates are intermixed within the data file (110). The fragmentation is carried out according to an algorithm (200) which may be based on a pass phrase (140) to the data file (110). The position of storage of each fragment (152, 154) within the data file (110) is also determined by the algorithm (200).

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